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BOOK NOTES.

Die Cerebrale Sekundärfunktion, von OTTO GROSS. F. C. W. Vogel, Leipzig, 1902. pp. 69.

Every nervous element that is functionally excited tends to persist in this state after the first cause has ceased to act. In respect, however, to this after or secondary function, individuals differ very greatly. Mentality is largely built up upon the intensity and duration of these after effects. If these are reduced and the excitability of the primary function increased, there is danger, and this is seen in its most flagrant form in mania. Consciousness is largely the result of this secondary process, which gives us groups of concepts and themata which the mind works out. One trait of degenerative constitutions is that consciousness becomes superficial or narrow. If these changes of secondary function are acquired and too diffuse, acute psychoses result. When the disturbance is circumscribed, paranoia follows. Even eras and time periods differ in ways best described under the author's rubrics.

Die Melancholie: ein Zustandsbild des manisch-depressiven Irreseins, by GEORGES L. DREYFUS. Mit einem Vorwort von Hofrat Professor Dr. Emil Kraepelin. Review reprinted from the Journal of Philosophy, Psychology, and Scientific Methods, Vol IV, No. 25, Dec. 5, 1907, pp. 692-698.

F. L. Wells gives us an interesting review of this important book, from which it appears that the author has made a careful study of eighty-one cases and believes that his results undermine the decision of Kraepelin that melancholia is a disease entity. It is suggestive that the last named author accepts these results in his introduction. Dreyfus makes here the first extended application of the statistical method in this field. He has made the best use of a continuous diagnostic policy which has extended over many years. After treating the history of melancholia, he shows that as early as 1878, it began to be recorded as a disease of the involution period. He traces the evolution of Kraepelin's views through the different conditions of his work, one main point of which is stressing the diagnostic value of retardation. In general, the involution melancholias are losing their integrity in the larger maniac-depressive group. From the depression of this group, however, it is distinguished by the presence of anxiety and agitation, and especially by the absence of retardation which is a factor of great and growing importance.

L'aphasie de Broca, by FRANÇOIS MOUTIER. G. Steinheil, Paris, 1908. 2 vols.

In these ponderous tomes, the author has discussed the history of the aphasia of Broca and its cerebral localization. Under this head, he treats of the anatomical documents of Broca; the observations, favorable and classic, in support of, and those contrary to, his theory of localization; the supposed syndromes of transcortical motor-aphasia; the theory of localization on the left side; the distribution of sense about the Sylvian fissure; anatomical dissociation and localization, according to Pierre Marie; the lenticular zone and that of Wernicke; the new localization according to recent studies. In the

next part, he discusses clinically the nature and symptoms of aphasia, beginning with the classical conception of Broca; he then takes up anarthria, clinical descriptions and the intellectual defect of aphasic patients; errors in diagnosing between dementia and aphasia; criticisms made by the new clinical studies of Broca; symptoms and verbal images. In the appendix, pages 251-769, the author prints justificative monographs from 1861 down; and from page 375 on gives observations that he has made himself. The work terminates with a bibliography, a lexicon of terms and a table of authors.

Prognosis in Cases of Mental Disease Showing the Feeling of Unreality, by FREDERIC H. PACKARD. Rep. from American Journal of Insanity, Vol. 64, No. 2, Oct., 1907, pp. 263-269.

In the allopsychic field, such expressions as "Things do not look real," in the somatopsychic field, the feeling that hands are changed, organs gone, etc., in the autopsychic field, that "I am not I, am dead," that "This is not Mr. So and So," are the three forms of a failing sense of reality. Packard thinks that all these deliriums of negation are due to anxious melancholy, and that the feeling of unreality is not an essential symptom of involution melancholy. He holds that this fantastic symptom should not be given too much importance, and that both diagnosis and prognosis should be made on the basis of more fundamental symptoms.

Heredity, by J. ARTHUR THOMSON. J. P. Putnam's Sons, New York, 1908. pp. 605.

This book has been long awaited with interest and will be read with satisfaction. Its author is, perhaps, the most holophrastic of all the able disciples of Weismann who write English. In the first chapter he defines and illustrates heredity and inheritance; in the second, discusses the physical basis of inheritance; in the third, heredity and variation; in the fourth, common modes of inheritance; fifth, reversion and allied phenomena; sixth, telegony and other disputed questions; seventh, transmission of acquired characters; eighth, heredity and disease; ninth, statistical study of inheritance; tenth, experimental study of inheritance; eleventh, history of theories of heredity and inheritance; twelfth, heredity and development; thirteenth, heredity and sex; fourteenth, social aspects of biological results. There are forty-nine illustrations, the text is good, the matter well distributed, the bibliography copious, and the work is admirably calculated to take a leading place among the text-books on the subject.

Organische Zweckmässigkeit, Entwicklung und Vererbung vom Standpunkte der Physiologie, von DR. PAUL JENSEN. Gustav Fisher, Jena, 1907. pp. 251.

This is a portion of a larger forthcoming "Introduction to general physiology." It begins by a criticism of Darwin's theory of selection, of auto-genetic and allogenetic theories. The variability of our organism is next characterized, its different types are pointed out and their significance for phylogeny is shown and the causes of progressive variability are traced. Then follows a critique of the various idioblastic and chromosome and the bioblastic theories. The purposiveness of organisms is discussed and the difference between true and false teleology is pointed out. The hypotheses of Ranke, Driesch, Wundt, Cosmann are briefly described. The relations of the whole problem to the monistic theory are next taken up, and this is the basis of the author's development of his own scheme of both description and classification. This work is a valuable addition to the repertory of the student desiring to put himself abreast of modern theories upon this difficult subject.

Versuch einer Begründung der Deszendenztheorie, by KARL C. SCHNEIDER. Fischer, Jena, 1908. pp. 132.

The first stimulus in the lowest form of life takes us at once into the psychic sphere. Under the law of the conservation of the psyche, all that passes from parent to offspring is a mneme. The psyche is the chief biological function throughout the entire evolutionary history of life. The first human soul was an epochful and spontaneous generation, when an over-consciousness was born that can turn upon nature and overcome her. The "exonoetic" process of experience is the origin of man. Just so far as he has become man, his physical development has ceased.

The Application of Statistical Methods to the Problems of Psychophysics, by F. M. URBAN. The Psychological Clinic Press, Philadelphia, 1908. pp. 221. (Experimental Studies in Psychology and Pedagogy, edited by Lichtner Witmer.)

The first chapter is devoted to the descriptions of the experiments. Then follow chapters on the statistical numbers of relative frequency, the method of just perceptible differences, equality cases, the psychometric functions, and lastly a general inquiry concerning these latter.

Grundzüge des Physiologische Psychologien, von WILHELM WUNDT. Sechste, umgearbeitete Auflage, Erster Band, mit 181 Figuren im Text sowie Sach- und Namenregister; Leipzig, Verlag von Wilhelm Engelmann, 1908. pp. 725.

This initial volume of the sixth edition of Wundt's great work has not only been carefully revised but increased considerably in bulk. New sections have been added in the introduction and earlier chapters, and a most radical working over has been given to the ninth chapter, the last in this volume, which deals with the Intensity of Sensations. The purpose here has been to bring out more clearly the psychological aspects of the matters dealt with and to recast the discussion of the psychophysic methods. A more detailed notice of the changes in this chapter will be given in a later issue of the *Journal*. The volume is provided with special indexes of names and subjects by Wundt's assistant, Dr. Otto Klemm. E. C. S.

The Influence of Alcohol and other Drugs on Fatigue. The Croonian Lectures delivered at the Royal College of Physicians in 1906. By W. H. R. RIVERS. Edward Arnold, London, 1908. pp. 136.

The writer first gives a history of the current methods of studying muscular and mental fatigue and that of attention, tracing the effects of drugs, etc. Subsequent lectures are devoted one each to caffeine, the influence of alcohol upon mental fatigue, of the use of cocaine, strychnine, tobacco, etc., while in the appendix a typical fatigue curve is given and a new apparatus for the application of MacDougall's method of studying mental fatigue. Every student of psychology and education will be glad to have in this volume an interesting and comprehensive description of the best methods and results that have been brought out by the many modes of studying this subject during the last decade or two.